

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 01245 271037Z
ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 L-03 H-02 EUR-12 HEW-06 /024 W
-----271042Z 064921 /11

O 271020Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3523

UNCLAS MOSCOW 1245

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, UR (THOMAS, IRENE)
SUBJECT: W/W: IRENE THOMAS

REF: MOSCOW 105

1. EMBASSY HAS NOT YET RECEIVED RESPONSE FROM MFA TO EMBASSY NOTE REQUESTING FURTHER INFORMATION ON STATE OF MRS. THOMAS' HEALTH (REFTEL). HOSPITAL OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, NOW INDICATE THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO RELEASE MRS. THOMAS AT SUCH TIME AS EMBASSY HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR HER TO RETURN TO US AND BE MET THERE. SINCE MRS. THOMAS NOW STATES THAT SHE WISHES TO RETURN TO US, QUESTION OF INVOLUNTARY REPATRIATION IS NO LONGER RELEVANT.

2. EMBASSY THEREFORE REQUESTS DEPARTMENT MAKE ARRANGEMENTS AS PROVIDED PL-87-64 WITH HEW TO HAVE MRS. THOMAS MET UPON ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON. SINCE SOME OF MRS. THOMAS' PERSONAL BELONGINGS WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO BE AIR-SHIPED, WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION DEPARTMENT CAN GIVE ON WHERE THEY SHOULD BE SHIPPED. MRS. THOMAS NOW HAS FOUR SOCIAL SECURITY CHECKS TALLING SIX HUNDRED TWENTY-THREE DOLLARS AND TWENTY CENTS BEING HELD BY THE EMBASSY. COST OF AIR FARE MOSCOW-WASHINGTON IS \$535.00 AND SINCE MRS. THOMAS HAS EXPRESSED DESIRE TO CASH ONE OF THEM FOR ESSENTIAL PURCHASES IN CONNECTION WITH TRAVEL, SUCH AS WINTER BOOTS, AND ALSO WISHES SHIP ADDITIONAL PERSONAL EFFECTS BY AIR FREIGHT, SHE WILL BE ARRIVING WASHINGTON ESSENTIALLY PENNILESS. SHE IS PHYSICALLY WEAK AND WE BELIEVE HEW ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD

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INCLUDE PROVISION FOR HOSPITALIZATION.

3. EMBASSY WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT MRS. THOMAS PROCEEDS TO US AS SCHEDULED. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF FACT THAT SHE HAS NOT BEEN FOUND MENTALLY INCOMPETENT, THERE IS SOME CHANCE THAT SHE WILL BALK AFTER BEING RELEASED FROM HOSPITAL. WE BELIEVE THAT UNDER THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES, SOVIET AUTHORITIES WILL SIMPLY DEPORT

HER. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT MRS. THOMAS WILL DISEMBARK FROM FLIGHT AT INTERMEDIATE STOP (PARIS IN THE CASE OF AEROFLOT 317 TO DULLES, AND COPENHAGEN ON PANAM 45 TO JFK). ALTHOUGH SHE CLAIMS TO WANT TO RETURN TO US, SHE IS AWARE THAT HER CHANCES OF LEAVING THE US AGAIN ARE NOT GOOD, EITHER BECAUSE OF HER UNSTABLE MENTAL CONDITION OR LACK OF FUNDS, AND SHE CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT USG CONSIDERS HER A SPY OR A MENTAL CASE, OR BOTH.

4. WE WOULD LIKE TO TRY TO ARRANGE DEPARTURE ABOARD AEROFLOT 317 TO DULLES ON TUESDAY, FEB 1, BUT WILL AWAIT REPLY FROM DEPARTMENT BEFORE BOOKING FLIGHT.
TOON

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Sent Date: 27-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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